

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 were pending, under consideration and subjected to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been amended, canceled and/or added (without prejudice or disclaimer) in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment and are simply refocused claims in which Applicant is present interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 6, 8-11 and 20-26 will be pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS OBVIATED VIA CLAIM AMENDMENT

Claim 8 has been objected to because of the Office Action concerns listed within the section numbered "2" on page 2 of the Office Action. Claim 8 has been amended in a manner believed to address the concerns. Further, added claim 20 corresponds to the Examiner-suggested claim. The Examiner is thanked by Applicant and the Undersigned for the kind claim amendment suggestion. As the foregoing is believed to address each of the Office Action listed concerns, reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objection are respectfully requested.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 6 and 8-9 have been allowed in the application, as indicated within the section number "5" on page 7 of the Office Action. Claim 8 has been amended as indicated above (e.g., to address the objection concerns), and such amendments are believed not to affect an allowability thereof. Beyond claims 6 and 8-9, claims 10-11 have been amended to depend from the allowable claims, and also, added claim 20 (corresponding to the Examiner-suggested claim) also depends from the allowable claims. Thus, reconsideration and renewal of the allowance of all of **claims 6, 8-11 and 20** are respectfully requested. Applicant and the undersigned respectfully thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS DUE TO PARALLELISM

Added claims 21-26 substantially parallel claims 6, 8-11 and 20, respectively, with the exception that independent claim 21 differs from independent claim 6 in the following manner:

an information transmission determining module to determine whether predetermined information for charging against an outstanding SF value is to be transmitted to the portable terminal identified by said portable terminal identifying module after that said card information regarding said conditions for the corresponding operation is acquired from the IC card; and in the case where contents of said card information satisfy said conditions for the corresponding operation; and

Owing to such parallelism, and owing to the fact that independent claim 21 contains the substantial limitations defined in the "wherein" clause (which is allowable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner in the 02 November

2006 Office Action, page 8) such claims should likewise be allowable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, consideration and express written allowance of such claims are respectfully requested.

**'103 REJECTION - OBSOLETE VIA CLAIM
CANCELLATION/AMENDMENT**

The 35 USC '103 rejection of ones of Applicant's prior claims, is respectfully traversed, but the present cancellation/amendment of such claims (without prejudice or disclaimer) to obtain a patent (without prejudice or disclaimer) on ones of the allowable claims as quickly as possible, has rendered such rejection(s) obsolete, and thus gratuitous traversal arguments concerning the rejection(s) are omitted for brevity. Further discussions/arguments concerning such rejection(s) are left for the future if/when appropriate. Based upon the following, reconsideration and withdrawal of such rejection(s) are respectfully requested.

The above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that the rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter, but is merely use of a procedural approach to obtain a patent (without prejudice or disclaimer) on ones of the allowable claims as quickly as possible.

ALL CLAIMS IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the fact that all prior art rejected claims have now been amended (to depend from allowable claims) or canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and now all include the features/limitations indicated as being allowable, it is respectfully submitted that all presently pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance with respect to the present application is respectfully requested.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to

any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 500.43711X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Based upon all of the foregoing, allowance of all presently-pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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